Welcome

We are delighted that the 20th International Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology (HRWM) will take place in Vienna, Austria from 15-20 September.

The Symposium organized by the IWA HRWM Specialist Group will be hosted by the Interuniversity Cooperation Centre (ICC) Water and Health and supported by the Austrian Society of Hygiene, Microbiology and Preventive Medicine (ÖGHMP).

The Health-Related Water Microbiology Specialist group is involved in all aspects of public health where water has the role as a vector or reservoir of pathogens. The symposium will bring together researchers, policy makers, water practitioners from academia, industry, engineers, water utilities, public authorities and administration to exchange latest scientific findings, experience and knowhow. We expect around 300 delegates from all around the world.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Vienna!

Regina Sommer and Andreas Farnleitner (conference chairs) and the Team of ICC Water & Health
Objectives
The quality of water used for drinking, irrigation, aquaculture, food processing or recreational purposes has a significant impact on public health on a global scale. Faecal pollution is a primary health concern in the environment, in water and in food. The development of new indicators of faecal contamination, source tracking, risk, treatment, will also be a topic that is being discussed. Main topics include among others research on pathogenic bacteria, parasites and viruses, microbial indicators, modelling associated risk and microbial source tracking tools, as well as water treatment and disinfection, water reuse, recreational water, water management in disaster situations and extreme events, antimicrobial resistance, as well as water quality and infection control in health care facilities. Contributions related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are particularly welcome. The IWA Young Water Professionals (www.iwa-network.org/young-water-professionals) will be an active part in the symposium organization and program and are especially encouraged to participate. Workshops are under preparation on the topics “Biological risks of WWTP workers”, “QMRA_catch Approach” and in cooperation with WHO “Antimicrobial Resistance” and ”Bacteriophages as indicators in water management”.

Conference Topics
The symposium program will cover all aspects of health related water microbiology in the whole water cycle, applied and basic research on water and microorganisms as it impacts human health.

› Water transmittable pathogens
› Survival, persistence, transport, fate and occurrence
› Epidemiology of water associated diseases
› Catchment protection
› Microbial fecal pollution diagnostics and source tracking
› Antimicrobial resistance
› Water treatment and disinfection
› Modelling and prediction
› QMRA, decision analysis, water safety plans and surveillance
› Biostability
› Criteria, standards, surveillance and monitoring
› Metagenome, microbiome and community analysis
› Recreational water and health
› Water reuse and health concerns
› Water, food and health
› Tools and measures supporting water and sanitation in developing countries
› Water management in disaster situations and extreme events
› Water quality and infection control in health care facilities

Publication
All abstracts will be reviewed and summarized in an abstract booklet. After the symposium, board members will recommend authors of excellent studies to submit full paper to Water Science and Technology or Journal of Water and Health. In the submission, a recommendation letter from HRWM board members will be included.
**Registration fees**
The registration includes attendance at conference sessions, booklet of abstracts, welcome reception, coffee/tea breaks and lunches. Registration of an accompanying person includes welcome reception, Viennese Heurigen Evening and Conference Dinner.

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*Key date 01.01.2019*

**Social events**
The symposium offers several social functions for networking and enjoying company in a relaxing atmosphere.

- **Welcome reception:** Sunday, 15.09.2019 (included)
- **Viennese Heurigen Evening:** Tuesday, 17.09.2018 (cost contribution): EUR 15,00
- **IWA YWP Evening:** Wednesday, 18.09.2018 (included in the YWP registration fee, registration required)
- **Conference Dinner:** Thursday, 19.09.2018 (cost contribution): EUR 20,00
- **Technical tours:** Technical tours will be offered Friday and/or Saturday (20.09.2019 / 21.09.2019) Registration required.

**Language**
The language of the conference will be English.

**Host City Vienna**
Vienna is situated in the heart of Europe. It offers manifold cultural highlights: Numerous famous composers have lived here; music is literally in the air! In Vienna one may visit a rich heritage and latest achievements in art and architecture - from the historic city center - a UNESCO world cultural heritage site - to modern facets like the University of Economy or the trendy MuseumsQuartier, one of the world's ten largest culture complexes.

More information can be found on the website of Vienna tourism: https://b2b.wien.info/en

**Venue**
The conference venue is the Campus of the University of Vienna (founded in 1365), which combines modern infrastructure and historic flair. The campus is located within walking distance to the city centre and can be easily reached by public transport. Address: 1090 Vienna, Spitalgasse 2

**Important dates**

- **15 January 2019:** Submission opens for abstracts, abstracts for YWP and scholarships for authors from developing countries
- **15 April 2019:** Submission closes
- **30 May 2019:** Notification of acceptance
- **30 June 2019:** Early Bird Registration Deadline

**Conference Website**
www.hrwm.eu

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*Images and logos are not included in the natural text.*
Conference Secretariat & Registration
Austrian Society for Hygiene, Microbiology and Preventive Medicine (ÖGHMP)
Contact: Lisa Thek
e-mail: oeghmp@media.co.at

Conference Chairs
Regina Sommer
Andreas Farnleitner

Local Organizing Committee
Alfred Paul Blaschke
Alexander Kirschner
René Mayer
Sílvia Cervero-Arago
Julia Derx
Rita Linke
Domenico Savio
Julia Vierheilig
Elias Gmeiner and Katalin Demeter (YWP)

We are pleased that the IWA Specialists Groups SG Disinfection (Chao Chen, China and Andrea Turolla, Italy) and SG Resources Oriented Sanitation (Günter Langergraber, Austria) have expressed their interest in contributing to the symposium program.

Program Committee
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